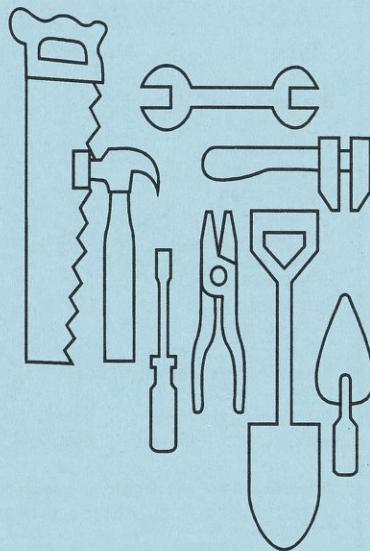
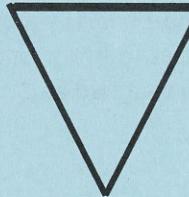
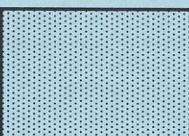


AUGUST 1997
VOLUME 13 NO. 7



SACWN PRESENTS...

A "HOW TO" SALON

**WITH
CONTRACTOR
BARBARA BRASS**

Considering taking on a major construction project around the house? Just about finished with a remodel, but can't seem to put the finishing touches on it? Never want to touch a power tool, yet feel curious about their strength?

Let's talk construction! Contractor Barbara Brass will lead the discussion about our projects, our hesitations, our successes and the traps and pitfalls of remodeling or building from scratch. Want to meet other women who are into putting around the house? Here's a chance to brag, complain or just get another opinion about that idea that is stirring you to *construction action*.

Date: Friday, August 22, 1997
Place: SACWN Office
3031 F Street, Suite 201
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Tickets: \$ 5 Member
\$10 Non-members and
At the Door

See ticket order form on inside back cover.
An event for women over 21.



From the Steering Committee

We just got back from Camp! There were almost fifty of us that took off for the hills of Grass Valley for a weekend of relaxation and companionship at the camp-ground called Camp Augusta. An old girl scout camp, built by a woman in honor of her mother and currently run by a non-profit organization in Fremont, CA, the grounds of Camp August have an enormous feeling of woman energy and provide a very special environment for a weekend to nurture the soul.

This is the fifth year of our Sacramento Women's Gathering (SWG) and there were a half dozen women who had attended all five years. The cabins are open to the air, there is electricity and hot running water with private showers, but enough spiders and this year, bees, to remind us we are in mother nature's hands.

Each year is slightly different and has a personality of its own. The variations seem to come with the wonderful mix of women who share the brief time away in another world.

Our Friday night entertainment was coordinated by Lesha, with Cinder making her very first ever, stand-up comedy routine debut. (It takes a very brave woman to stand up in front of an audience with the goal of making them laugh. Cinder was extraordinarily brave. And just what planet are you from Cinder?)

On Saturday, Diana lead a workshop about chaos and how we deal with change and the many curves that life throws at us. Sunday saw Diana back leading us in a discussion of spirituality. Saturday night's dance was an "every other song" mix of oldies and soul music with a touch of rock, acid and blues (thank you Joy, Joyce, Geri, Kim and Rachel for the DJ responsibilities). It is so much fun dancing in a 70 year old log cabin that seems to sway with our movements. The dance was over by ten (cause there is a curfew around the lake - kiddie camps are on the other side and you know how sound travels over water) just when the campfire was beginning to roar. It was then time for s'mores and we all learned that Pat definitely has the best knack for toasting marshmallows to a golden brown (and even melting the chocolate in her s'more!)

There were canoe lessons from Lee and a hike lead by Debbie. Kay was taking on all comers in cribbage and the waterfall was a delightful place to cool off and woman watch. It was an incredible way to spend a respite from real life.

No description of SWG would be complete without a thank you to the cooks, especially Carol and her able

assistants, just about everyone!

The most special thing about camp each year is the openness that women have in their hearts for each other. Again, it was a time to really get to know each other a little better. We left on Sunday touched and renewed in our friendships.

SACWN ADVERTISING RATES

Type	Member	Non-Mem
Business Card	\$25	\$37
3 1/4 x 1 3/4		
Two-column ad	\$40	\$60
4 1/2 x 2 3/4		
Quarter page	\$50	\$75
3 1/2 x 4 1/2		
Half page	\$90	\$135
7 1/8 x 4 1/2 or 3 1/2 x 9 1/2		
Full page	\$160	\$240
7 1/2 x 9 1/2		
Classified ads (per word)	.40	.60
Discounts	1 year (prepaid)	20% 1/2 year 10%

Advertisers are not necessarily lesbians. We do not warrant the services or products of advertisers.

SACWN STEERING COMMITTEE

Rosemary Metrailler, Corporate Coordinator

(916) 447-7255

Jane Irwin, Finance Coordinator

(916) 424-3153

Sandra Virago

Executive Director

SACWN, Inc.

3031 F Street, Suite 201

Sacramento, CA 95816

(916) 451-8034

FAX: (916) 446-7189

SACWN, Inc. newsletter is published monthly, ten times a year. No portion of this newsletter may be reproduced without written permission from **SACWN, Inc.** Letters to the Editor, articles and community announcements are welcome. Materials submitted may be edited and shortened based on available space. Deadline for submission of material is the third Friday of the month before publication. For more information, contact Sandy Virago at 451-8034.

Special Interest Groups - August, 1997

Special Interest Groups (SIGs) are small groups of women who meet around a common interest. It's a great way to meet other lesbians in an informal environment. Just give the facilitator a call and she'll be glad to tell you all about the group and their activities..



TOP 10

August dinner is at the Olive Garden, 1780 Challenge Way on Saturday, August 23, 6 p.m. Call **Paula at 721-6409** by Thursday August 20 for reservation.

TOP 10 is a group of women over 50 and women who love women over 50! We meet at least once a month at restaurants around town. Occasionally we have fun at home parties. Come join us for an evening of fun!

THE BOOK GROUP

There will be no book group in August, however anyone interested in participating in future meetings should call **Joy 452-5513** to put their names on a list to be notified of future meetings.

1/2 FAST HIKING GROUP (FOR MATURE AUDIENCES ONLY)

We're an active well organized group which gets together once a month to go hiking. Please call for details. Join us! Anne 443-3638 and Sue 927-8320.

SINGLES GROUP

The Singles Group is taking August off for vacation.

For information about upcoming single events, call **Ann at 927-6038**.

ANTIQUE LOVERS

There are wonderful antiques shops in, as well as out, of the Sacramento area. Let's get together, discuss our passion for aged art antiquities and go browsing/buying. Maybe we could even venture out of the area and explore Napa, San Francisco, etc. If interested in helping to form this new group, call **Candi at 488-3575**.

RAINBOW CAMPERS

Here's the schedule for the 1997 summer of camping fun.

August 8 - Wrights Beach; Carolyn & Nancy 961-4722

Sept. 20-21 - Coloma; Linda & Denice 641-8565

All campers are welcome with tents, trucks, RVs, or sleeping bags under the stars!

BYKERS

Lots of bikes and lots of bykers. Motorcycle group forming. Need ideas for ways to incorporate all the different types of motorcycles into activities compatible with their size of machine. Interested? Call **Candi at 488-3575**.

PINOCHLE GROUP

Pinochle, anyone? Joy Fisher and Joyce Austin are looking for non-smoking pinochle players for regular get-togethers. Please call us at **452-5513**.



SACWN CALENDAR

SACWN EVENTS

TIME TO GET READY FOR THE SNOW WHITE CHAMPAGNE BALL!

December 6th is fast approaching and plans are underway to make this, the 21st annual Snow White Champagne Ball the best ever. Scheduled to provide the musical entertainment this year is an orchestra from San Francisco called, City Swing. To prepare you for swing, the hottest dance craze in the west, SACWN will offer two swing dance classes this fall, a demonstration at the dance by our dance class graduates and more instructions from 8 to 9 p.m. on the night of the ball.

On Wednesday nights, beginning September 17, 1997 at Sierra 2, John Bachelor will teach a beginner class of swing dance lessons. This six week course continuing through October 23, will feature group lessons with personalized attention. The second course, beginning October 29 and extending through December 3 will be both Swing Class 1 and Swing Class 2 for the advanced swingers from the previous class. The six week class is only \$25 per person for SACWN members, (\$30 non-members) and no partners are needed. With enough participants, classes will also be held on Tuesday night.

Register early, class size is limited, and save December 6th for the swingiest night of 1997.

REGISTRATION FOR SWING LESSONS

NAME: _____

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

Enclosed find \$ _____ for the six week course.

Session 1: Sept 17-Oct 23 _____

Session 2 Oct 29 - Dec 3 _____

Wednesday _____ Tuesday _____

Return to: SACWN, 3031 F Street, Suite 201

Sacramento, CA 95816. Call 451-8034 to use

Visa or MC

IN THE COMMUNITY

August 9 - Gay and Lesbian Sierrans - Bike and brunch, Call Suzanne 668-0691

August 14 - LGS, Lesbian Support Group in Auburn at the Dewitt Center from 7-9. For information, call 632-7080.

August 29-September 1 - The 1st annual West Coast Women's Beach Fest - Robin Tyler Productions. Doubletree Hotel in Monterey, Dances, Luau, comedy and lots more. Call 818/893-4075 for information.

September 5-7 - Gay and Lesbian Sierrans - Backpack and peak climb at long Lake and Mokelumne Peak. Call Ray at 421-6209.

September 12-27 - Lambda Players presents Jeffrey. Friday and Saturday nights. Call 491-1062

September 11 - LGS, Lesbian Support Group in Auburn at the Dewitt Center from 7-9. For information, call 632-7080.

HAWAII, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

care decisions for their partners when the partner is too disabled to make a decision for her/himself.

- The reciprocal beneficiaries of a patient who dies may make an anatomical gift of all or part of the decedent's body for authorized purposes, unless the decedent, at the time of death, refused to authorize such a gift.

- Reciprocal beneficiaries whose partner dies without a will or with an old will which fails to mention them may elect to take a portion of the deceased partner's estate based on the percentage for each year they have been together up to 50 percent of the estate.

- A reciprocal beneficiary whose partner has been killed by a wrongful act may sue for wrongful death. Damages may be awarded for loss of care, attention, advice, or counsel, for loss of society, companionship, comfort, consortium or protection.

- In making disaster relief loans, money may be loaned for the necessary expenses of family members including reciprocal beneficiaries.

This law significantly provides rights not now afforded lesbians on the mainland. More about these rights will be found in the SACWN September newsletter.

SUCCESSFUL SACWNITE

Ellen Degeneres may have brought national attention to New Orleans and Louisiana, but the South has never been represented so well as it has from our own local, lesbian Southerner. The Cajun Lady; that's what Holly Hebert calls her catering business. That's also what she calls herself, "Cajun".

To some, Cajun is just a euphemism for backward people who live or lived in the swamps of some obscure state, but to Holly, Cajun is a culture that she is extremely proud of. A culture that has survived for many years, only to be refined and tastefully displayed in the culinary skills of its proud children.

"Growing up in the South these talents are just part of my DNA," Holly jokes.

Born and raised in New Iberia, Louisiana, Holly attended LSU and then Tulane University.

She received her degree in psychology with a Masters in Social Work, "like a good lesbian". In 1990, Holly went to San Francisco to visit a friend and stayed for 5 1/2 years. It was while in San Francisco that Holly realized her career choice was not exactly what was in her heart.

"I worked as a Social Worker for 6 1/2 years and was never quite fulfilled. At the same time I was planning parties at my home and people were complementing my cooking and saying, 'You're a great cook.'

Holly continued catering parties on the side and working full-time as an LCSW for 2 1/2 years.

Then, Holly's partner started her residency at UCD-Med Center where she works as a physician.

Holly worked for a while as a social worker until her love of cooking completely consumed her and she decided to leave psychology in pursuit of her true love. "The Cajun Lady" is Holly's very own, one person catering business. She prepares "mostly" Cajun meals, although Holly says she can and will cook anything. Her

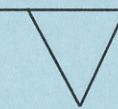


specialty right now is a Jambalaya lunch which consists of chicken, turkey sausage, mixed salad, roll and praline, for \$7.00, which she delivers for free at lunch. She caters other events, also, such as picnics, work parties, dinners and they aren't restricted to cajun food. But that is her forte and her customers can tell because Holly cooks from her heart and the proof is in the food.

Holly's goal is to eventually have a little cafe where people, particularly women, can come and enjoy delicious food in an atmosphere that supports us. She says it would be nice to have a place for women to hang out that featured women artists, especially southern women. "I just think southern women are incredibly powerful."

For now, however, Holly is happy catering her lunches, throwing southern parties for her friends and working part time for the Sacramento AIDS Foundation.

Holly's idea of success is, "Discovering what your path is and being true to it"



HAWAII BILL IS LAW!

Governor Benjamin Cayetano allowed the reciprocal beneficiaries bill to become law in Hawaii without his signature earlier this month. Gay and lesbian couples began registering for reciprocal beneficiary status by mail even before the bill went into effect at midnight on July 8.

Within days, five of Hawaii's largest employers sued the state in federal court to block implementation of the law, which, among other things, requires private employers that provide health benefits coverage to employees' families to extend that coverage to reciprocal beneficiaries.

This new law allows employers to pass along any increased cost of the coverage to their employees and a report published by the Employee Benefit Research Institute in July concluded employers offering benefits to domestic partners have not experienced higher risks of cost than they have with married spouses.

Nevertheless, the employers bringing the suit say they are worried the new law could cause their health plans to increase by millions of dollars. They argue that state may have violated the federal Employee Retirement Income Security Act ("ERISA"), which regulates pension and benefits plans.

Even if this portion of the law is eventually found to be overridden by federal law, however, the remaining rights and benefits conferred by the new law will not be lost, because the law provides that its provisions are severable, if one section is struck down, it will not effect the validity of the other sections.

Although an analysis of all the rights and benefits conferred by the new law still hasn't been completed, a partial list is as follows:

- State and county employees will receive health benefits for their reciprocal beneficiaries and any unmarried children of the reciprocal beneficiaries under the age of 19 until June 30, 1999. At that time, a cost analysis will be done and the legislature will determine whether to extend the benefits for a longer period.

- Insurance companies must offer private health insurance policies which cover reciprocal beneficiaries and any such policies must cover newborns of reciprocal beneficiaries from the moment of birth for treatment of medically diagnosed congenital defects and birth abnormalities.

- Reciprocal beneficiaries are given hospital visitation rights and the right to make health (cont. page 4)

Deborah A. Brooks

Certified Public Accountant



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THE FORMS

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CATEGORIES	RATES
Regular Subscriber	\$36/year
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Limited Income Subscriber*	\$24/year
(Student/Senior/Disabled)	
Sustaining Subscriber**	\$48/year

Enclose check and mail to: **SACWN, Inc.,
3031 F Street, Suite 201, Sacramento, CA 95816**

Name(1) Name(2)

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (H) _____ (H) _____

Phone (W) _____ (W) _____

Career Interests

(1) _____

(2) _____

To charge on **Visa** or **MasterCard** please provide:

Acct No: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Name as it Appears on Card: _____

**YOUR BILL WILL INDICATE A SALE TO
OUTSOURCING MANAGEMENT GROUP.**

This form is NOT a permanent record. Please note: Names on checks are listed in our financial records and may be audited. You may elect to pay cash for your subscription and/or admission to our events. For your protection, do not send cash through the mail. If subscribing by cash, please make your payment at the next meeting you attend. A \$10 fee will be charged on returned checks.

WAIVER - I AM AWARE THAT CERTAIN RISKS OR INJURIES COULD OCCUR ARISING FROM MY PARTICIPATION IN SACWN, INC. EVENTS AND/OR SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS. IN CONSIDERATION OF THE RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE IN SUCH EVENTS, SOME OF WHICH MAY INVOLVE STRENUEOUS ACTIVITY (I.E. HIKING, GOLFING, SKIING, CYCLING, ETC.), I HEREBY ASSUME ALL RISKS AND WILL HOLD SACWN, INC. AND ITS MEMBERS HARMLESS FROM ALL LIABILITY WHICH MAY ARISE IN CONNECTION WITH THESE ACTIVITIES.

Signature _____ Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____

***LIMITED INCOME** - We consider a person living on a limited income to be anyone who is having a difficult time paying for basic necessities - food, utilities and rent - and who rarely considers entertainment as part of her budget.

* SENIORS -Age 65+ on Limited Income; STUDENTS - Students 21+ on Limited Income; DISABLED - Disabled Citizens on Limited Income.

****SUSTAINING** - Contributing a little extra to help supplement others (Seniors, Students, Disabled) on limited income.

TICKET ORDER FORM

SACWN Salon

"How To"

with Contractor Barbara Brass

August 22, 1997

3031 F Street, Suite 201, Sacramento

From 6:30 p.m.

**TO REGISTER
SEND CHECK AND THIS FORM TO:
SACWN,
3031 F Street, Suite 201
Sacramento, CA 95816**

**Because of the nature of the program,
tickets will be held at the door.**

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

Number of Tickets:
SACWN Member @ \$ 5: _____
List Membership Nos: _____

Non-members @ \$10: _____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Or to use VISA or Mastercard, provide
Card No: _____

Exp. Date: _____

Signature: _____
Your credit card bill will indicate a purchase from
Outsourcing Management Group.

This event is open to women over 21 only.



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SACRAMENTO, CA 95816

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

GET READY FOR YOUR FALL "PROJECT" WITH SACWN!

